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CHRISTMAS PARTY!

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The new ZeroBeat Newsletter, the official publication of the Montgomery Amateur Radio Club published on the first day of each month. Contents: Articles about new products - antennas - techniques and ideas – items for sale – humor - announcements and upcoming events – letters to the editor – articles about old products – profiles of club members – event pictures. The ZeroBeat wants your contributions! Email articles to me at CASKYWARN@GMAIL.COM in Microsoft Word format or plain text. Comments and letters to the editor are welcome!



Your club needs you!

Help keep our repeaters on the air!

Support our mission!

Now with easy on-line renewal!

Go to w4ap.org click on JOIN/RENEW

Mobiles click top left menu button ☰



Help keep amateur radio flourishing in Central Alabama for education, discovery, public service, and great fellowship!

Hamfest – The Reckoning!

N4UZZ



The Montgomery Hamfest Nov 9, 2024

Hamfests across the country are seeing fewer vendors and visitors. We were worried about how we would do. It turns out that we tripled our profit from prior years and did very well! With that information, we quickly got with the Alcazar Shrine folks and paid for our reservation of the facility for our 2025 hamfest on November 8, 2025. They gave us the venue at the same price as this year.

There were a few empty tables. The historical radio association reserved a bunch of tables but did not show up. Nobody knows why. However, we were almost sold out on tables, so we did not see a big decline in demand for tables. Tower Electronics and The Sign Man both said that they did not do as well as they had in prior years, but that they would be back in 2025. For Tower Electronics they can only commit to hamfests where they can expect to have assistance in loading and unloading. They reserve 14 tables and are an important vendor.

**We tripled our profit from the
years before!
We will return for Hamfest
2025 on November 8!**

We had barely enough volunteers to make it all work. We did not have enough volunteers for cleanup. AF4JR worked hard to stack tables and chairs. We will need to get more and new volunteers to make Hamfest 2025 work!

In 2025 we will have more door prizes (six gift certificates of \$ 25.00 each) and a new grand prize. We will be starting earlier to beat the drums for volunteers that are needed not just during the hamfest, but before it and after it. So, all in all, a grand success, and we will do it again in 2025!



Christmas Party!

Come join us for fun and good food at the annual
MARC Christmas Party!

Monday, December 16, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

Location: Feast Buffet Restaurant
5831 Atlanta Hwy,
Montgomery, AL 36117
(at the intersection of
Atlanta Highway and Burbank Drive)
A room has been reserved.



This is our annual celebration of club accomplishments and camaraderie!
We start with dinner, then proceed to the awards.
The awards this year:

HAM OF THE YEAR
NEW HAM OF THE YEAR (Licensed in the last 24 months)
PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD
ELMER OF THE YEAR
PRESIDENT'S AWARD
ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR
WHOOPIE AWARD

This is a wonderful event where we not only express our appreciation for the achievements and activities of our members, **but we also properly roast them! You will not be spared!**



Winter Field Day!

Saturday, January 25, 2025.

Cooter's Pond Pavillion, Cooter's Pond Road.
From Hwy 31 (South Memorial Drive, Prattville, AL)
take Cooter's Pond Road to the dead end.
Turn left, ignoring the One-Way sign.
Go about 400 feet, turn left and enter
Cooter's Pond Park through the gate.
Go about 0.4 miles to the pavilion
with parking area on the right.

SCHEDULE (ALL TIMES CST):

0915	Coffee and donuts served Betting pool opens*
0930	Station set-up
0955	Betting pool closes*
1000	Operation starts
1200	Pizza served
1300	End of operation Betting pool prize awarded Breakdown and cleanup

* Grand prize: \$ 50.00 gift certificate
for hamfest shopping!



Bring your station to operate Winter
Field Day!

We will have

- ✓ Batteries (Anderson power pole connectors)
- ✓ One 40m vertical with 5.1 dB gain towards the Northeast
- ✓ One 20m vertical with 5.3 dB gain towards the Northeast
- ✓ One 40-10m endfed
- ✓ Band filters to prevent stations from interfering with each other
- ✓ All necessary coax cables

**WE WILL KEEP YOU
WARM WITH HOT
COFFEE AND HOT PIZZA!**



Local Nets You May Want to Know About

Otto N4UZZ

NOTE: Technicians can participate in the nets on 10m.

- The Cradle of the Confederacy Net and 10-10 International Chapter meet weekly on 28.350 MHz on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM CT on upper side band.
- The QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Association) meets for a rag chew following the Cradle of the Confederacy Net on 28.350 MHz upper side band. Any amateur radio operator who has been licensed 25 years or longer is invited to join the QCWA by going to QCWA.org. We are Chapter 40.
- Monday nights at 8:00 PM CT the UHF Net meets for ragchew and to answer questions about antennas, coax cables, and various other equipment. New hams and experienced hams are invited. The net meets on the 444.500 W4AP Bald Knob repeater.
- Central Alabama Skywarn Net, 7:00 PM CT on the 146.84 repeater.
- Montgomery County ARES Net 7:30 PM CT on the 146.84 repeater.
- Sunday night at 8:00 PM local time the Central Alabama 2m Net meets on the 146.84 W4AP repeater. This is a get-together that should not be missed.
- The Alabama Emergency Net Mike meets daily at 6:00 PM on 3.965 MHz LSB for statewide traffic handling. (This net requires General Class privileges.)

**Do you want to look up events or nets?
The club calendar on the front page of our website
<https://w4ap.org>
is always up-to-date with the latest details.
Just click on an event to get everything you need to know.**

MARC Happenings for December 2024

The Lunchbunch meeting schedule: all meetings at 11:00 AM

Dec 4, 2024	Pizza Perfect, 428 Coliseum Blvd, Montgomery, AL 36109
Dec 11, 2024	San Marcos, 61 N Burbank Dr, Montgomery AL 36117
Dec 18, 2024	Sommer's Place, 7972 Vaughn Road near Vaughn & Taylor

To join the club or Lunchbunch email list, send request to CASKYWARN@GMAIL.COM

The MARC 2m Net	meets every Sunday at 8:00 PM CT on 146.84 W4AP
Skywarn Training Net	meets every Thursday 7:00 PM CT on 146.84 W4AP
MGM-ARES Net	meets every Thursday 7:30 PM CT on 146.84 W4AP
Club Breakfast	Chappy's, Carmichael at Perry Hill Road, 7:00 AM Dec 14, 2024
Club Meeting	Mon, Nov 16, 2024, 7:00 PM, Christmas Party Feast Buffet Restaurant, 5831 Atlanta Hwy, Montgomery, AL 36117
CAVEC Testing	Mon, Dec 9, 2024, 6:30 pm Community Room, Renfroe's Foodland, 9168 East Chase Parkway Montgomery, AL 36117
ARRL-VE Testing	Sat, Dec 28, 2024 9:00 AM, Renfroe Food Market Chantilly Corner Pre-registration required Lewin.nyman@gmail.com
Foxhunt	No foxhunt this month

For details on all events: go to w4ap.org
Scroll down to the club calendar

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1412939275643917/>

Club Officers:

President:	Otto Arnoscht N4UZZ
Vice-President:	Ken Brittin AK4KN
Treasurer:	Fidel Cintron KK4KGO
Secretary:	Dennis Egbert K4PDQ
Public Information Officer:	Jim Norris K4JLN
Director 1:	Trent Davis KV4UZ (2024 - 2028)
Director 2:	Philip Salley K4PO (2022 - 2026)
Director 3:	Fred Springall KR4YK (2023 - 2027)
Director 4:	Mac McWhorter (2024 - 2025)